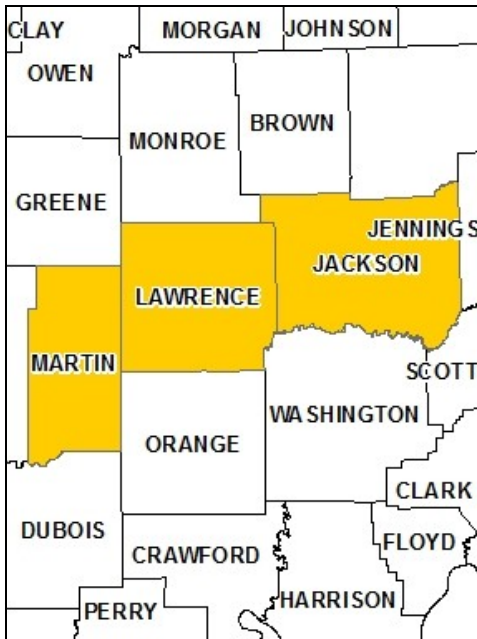




2015 Clean Water Indiana Grant Program

Indiana State Department of Agriculture
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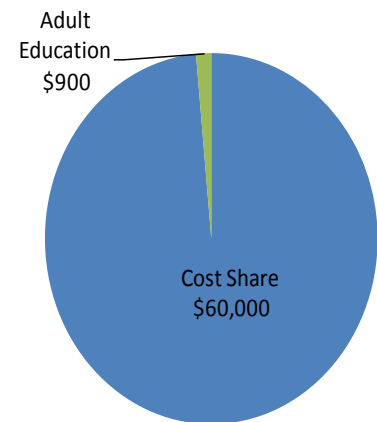


LEAD DISTRICT: LAWRENCE
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: JACKSON, MARTIN
PROJECT NAME: UNITED FOR CLEAN SOIL & WATER
PROJECT DATES: 5/1/2015-4/30/2017
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,900

Purpose: Improve water quality and reduce soil degradation

Lawrence, Jackson and Martin County SWCD's will be uniting forces to help improve water quality and reduce soil quality degradation. Crop and pastureland make up a large majority of the acres within the selected watershed. These sensitive areas are much more susceptible to excessive sediment and extreme nutrients entering the water-bodies. With extreme soil loss created by erosion, the depletion of organic matter, and treacherous amounts of nutrients and pesticides entering our water supply; devastating effects are being seen, specifically in the Gulf of Mexico. Among this trio, similar resource concerns are present. Erosion, lack of organic matter, nutrient loss, excessive weeds, lack of moisture, and compaction are some of the concerns that are occurring. These issues are being seen in crop fields as well as pasture ground. Cover crops and forage and biomass plantings are crucial to reduce and ultimately halt these pollutants leading to soil quality degradation and water quality impairments.

PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE: NRCS, LAWRENCE, JACKSON, AND MARTIN PURDUE EXTENSION OFFICES, CCSI, ON FARM NETWORK, WHITE RIVER CO-OP, STANDISH FARM SUPPLY, BEDFORD FEED & SEED, INC., BUNDY BROTHERS & SONS INC., JACKSON JENNING CO-OP, KOVA FARM SUPPLY, AND FSA



Local businesses with support field days and a cost-share program.

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2015, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 14 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,020,900. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).